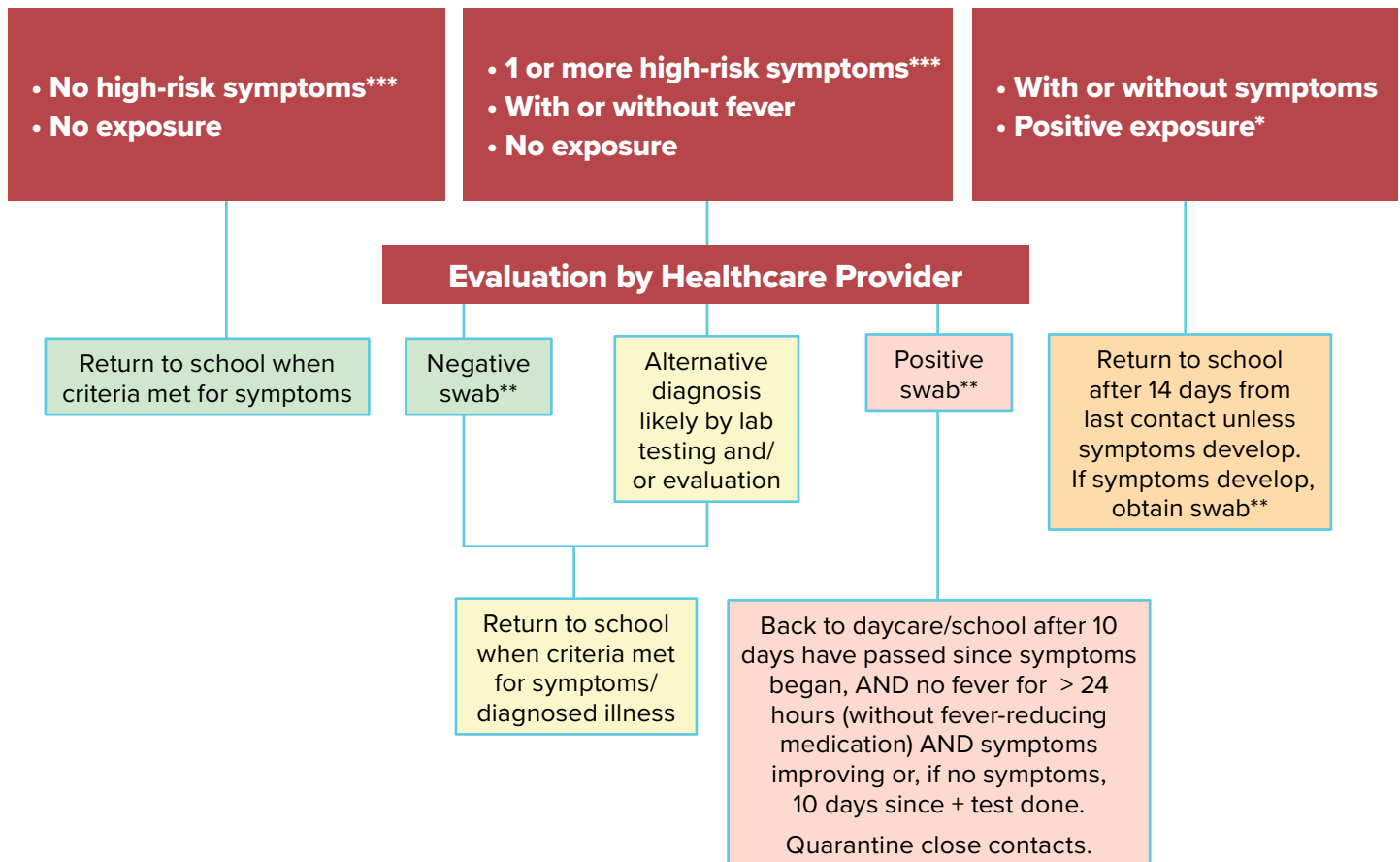


# COVID-19

## Evaluation of students with potential COVID-19 symptoms or exposure

**Any new cough, difficulty breathing, loss of taste/smell or exposure\* to COVID-19 positive person?**

(Other symptoms may include fever, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea/vomiting, or diarrhea but should prompt evaluation for other common childhood illnesses and are not an automatic exclusion)



**NOTE: If parents refuse testing or evaluation by healthcare provider, child must complete 14-day quarantine. Do not report to DHEC. Do not quarantine close contacts.**

\* Exposure to a confirmed case while infectious = close contact within 6 feet for >15 minutes (cumulative) 48 hours before and 10 days after symptoms started.

\*\* Swab refers to SARS-CoV-2 PCR test or another approved test per the DHEC website..

\*\*\* High risk symptoms include cough, difficulty breathing and loss of taste or smell.

# COVID-19

## Protocol for Schools Assisting Health Department in Close Contact Identification for COVID-19 Cases

### Student with + Test for novel coronavirus

Student\* AND close contacts,\*\* including household contacts immediately excluded from school until isolation or quarantine completed or as determined by DHEC

Contacts identified: Students, teachers and staff are close contact if:

- Within 6 feet
- >15 minutes (total in 1 day)\*\*\*
- During the student's infectious period (48 hours before and 10 days after symptoms developed [or 48 hours before and 10 days after test date if no symptoms are present])

Classroom contacts seated within 6 feet in the front, side, and back of student

Lunch contacts within 6 feet for > 15 minutes

Free period contacts within 6 feet for > 15 minutes

Transportation contacts within 6 feet for > 15 minutes

Contacts through special services, before/after school care, and extracurricular activities

Complete DHEC spreadsheet template containing close contact information. Include at a minimum:

- Student name
- Parent(s) name and phone number
- Home address

Health Department will do contact tracing, provide guidance on quarantine and school exclusion, and provide follow-up monitoring.\*\*

A note from a parent verifying completion of quarantine requirements\*\* suffices to return to school.

\* Students with a positive test will be isolated and should not come to school until 10 days have passed since symptoms began, AND no fever for > 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication) AND symptoms improving or, if no symptoms, 10 days since the positive test.

\*\* Students who are determined to be close contacts will be quarantined and should not come to school until at least 14 days after last potential exposure. They are recommended to be tested during the second week of their quarantine period but must complete the full 14-day quarantine even if they test negative. Household contacts are assumed to be close contacts.

\*\*\* Close contact also depends on the exposure level and setting: e.g., if exposure to copious nasal secretions while comforting a crying child, this may be defined as any duration.